Today's News - Tuesday, November 20, 2007

In Santa Monica, a humble parking garage is humble no more. -- Karachi builds - without architects creates a "doom-and-gloom scenario." -- Planning Havana in a post-Castro Cuba. -- Sarasota school board presented with 5 proposals to save Rudolph's Riverview High School (they might still go for demolition). -- The saga of 3XN's Liverpool museum rift continues. -- Pinewood Studios plan includes a downtown New York - and 2,000 green homes. -- Campbell on the lessons Harvard can learn from Cincinnati campus: should Allston campus be a "world's fair" of starchitects? -- NYT HQ: Ouroussoff gives (mostly) thumbs-up to his own new digs. -- Hume on Edmonton's efforts to rise above anonymity. -- Farrelly on Seidler's glamorous new aquatic center: "the most delicious indoor swimming experience in town" (if only she could find the front door). -- Ground Zero memorial: Arad on dealing with "an imbroglio of politicians, architects, public officials and interest groups." -- A crematorium in India "shows that architecture can help give places of death and mourning a quiet dignity" (unless you work there). -- Kennicott on D.C.'s new home for Shakespeare: "refreshing to see architecture that is unafraid of the random dangers of urban life in the 21st century." -- Richard Rogers continues to wage "war against the Prince of Wales, architectural conservatism and cities gone to the dogs."-- Cramer's call for traditional design to be brought back into mainstream architectural education. -- King digs up Polk's 19th century pokes at San Francisco (some things never change). -- Dubai to get even greener with 30 new parks. -- How the Bauhaus has shaped our world. -- U.K. hands out sustainability and healthcare design awards. -- Cramer's call for traditional design to be brought back into mainstream architectural education.

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A Civic Gateway: Santa Monica Civic Center Parking Structure: The humble parking garage is humble no more with a bold design that makes it a sparkling destination point in itself - oh, it's LEED green, too. -- Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners [images]- ArchNewsNow

We built this city...without architects: Karachi uses only 2% of the services architects offer when planning projects...as a nation, Pakistan has lost excellence in design and creativity due to a lack of professionalism and society does not support architects. This doom-and-gloom scenario may be just one part of the story...- Daily Times (Pakistan)

Planning Ahead: Architects plan for Cuban reconstruction: "Havana and Its Landscapes"...a proposal designed mostly by Nicolás Quintana and FIU architecture students that gives guidelines for builders interested in constructing a post-Castro Cuba. [image]- The Beacon (Florida International University)

Jury to Present Adaptive-Reuse Plans for [Paul Rudolph's] Riverview High School: ...school board can select from any of the five schemes, although there is the chance that the board would deem all plans unfit, instead moving forward with demolition. -- ADP Group; Mack Scogin Merrill Elam/John McAslan + Partners; RMJM Hillier/Diane Lewis Architect/Beckelman + Capalino/Seibert Architects; Folsom Group/TOTeMS Architecture; Taylor Architecture/Batson-Cook- Architectural Record

Architect firm's shock at loss of city contract: 3XN and National Museums Liverpool have parted company in a separation that has stunned the world of architecture...Kim Herforth Nielsen said..."The building is our design and will remain so as we own the copyright..."- icLiverpool (UK)

Burland TM sets the scene for Pinewood Studios: ...will create permanent film and TV sets - including a Venetian canal, a medieval castle and downtown New York - alongside a "sustainable community" of at least 2,000 homes. [image]- BD/Building Design (UK)

Lessons from Cincinnati: What can Harvard learn from the Midwestern university's bold building boom? ...The campus is a celebrity party of..."signature architects." Is this the way to go? Well, it's certainly interesting. By Robert Campbell -- Henry Cobb; Leers Weinzapfel; Cambridge Seven; Machado & Silvetti; Gehry; Mayne; Graves; Eisenman; Gwathmey; Tschumi; Hargreaves; Yudell; Jones; Olin; Hadid- Boston Globe

Pride and Nostalgia Mix in The Times's New Home: Architecturally...owes its greatest debt to postwar landmarks like Skidmore, Owings & Merrill's Lever House or Mies van der Rohe's Seagram Building. ...if the building is less than spectacular in the skyline, it comes to life when it hits the ground. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Renzo Piano; FXFowle; Gensler [video slide show]- New York Times

Art Gallery of Alberta adds some much-needed drama: ...Less spectacular but equally significant is the rehabilitation of the 1936 Hudson's Bay store...enamed Enterprise Square...Royal Alberta Museum also has high hopes...but already architects have been instructed to think small. By Christopher Hume -- Randall Stout; Stantec Architects- Toronto Star

Cool pool, Harry, but where's the front door? ...Seidler's glamorous new Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre in Ultimo...you might expect the front door to be, well, frontal...architecture should always mean not having to label the entrance. By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald

The politics of remembering Ground Zero: Michael Arad, a young architect who seemed steeped in euphoria and quite astounded by his win, became caught up in an imbroglio of politicians, architects, public officials and interest groups.- Ha`aretz (Israel)

Shadow spaces: The Ashwinikumar crematorium in Surat shows that architecture can help give places of death and mourning a quiet dignity and solemnity...All the good words cease when you climb up to the terrace...design that cares for the dead and mourners does not think that those who work and do the hard job deserve attention. -- Gurjit Singh Matharoo [images]- The Hindu (India)

Shakespeare and the City, at a New Stage: Harman Hall Puts Theatergoers in a Bright New Light...refreshing to see architecture that is unafraid of the random dangers of urban life in the 21st century. By Philip Kennicott -- Diamond and Schmitt Architects- Washington Post

Designed to last: Richard Rogers: At 74, Richard Rogers is as busy as ever shaping the future. Slippers are not an option...with the twinkly eyes and endearingly rambling tales about the war – the war against the Prince of Wales, architectural conservatism and cities gone to the dogs. By Tom Dyckhoff -- Rogers Stirk Harbour- The Times (UK)

I Want To Go To Yale: ...I think the time has come to reintroduce traditional design into mainstream architectural education...architecture schools teach their students to despise it...Sure, I'd like to see the avant-garde triumph, but I'd just as soon see some improvement in the design of the typical suburban house. By Ned Cramer- Architect Magazine

House style: The Bauhaus movement emerged as architects and artists began to rebuild a battle-torn Europe after the great war, and became a fashion in itself. Fiona MacCarthy on how it shaped the modern world -- Walter Gropius; Marcel Breuer; Maxwell Fry; Max Bill- Guardian (UK)

Our shining (and grotesque) city upon a hill: Willis Polk's up there with Julia Morgan and Bernard Maybeck ...it turns out, he also moonlighted as an architectural critic - and if Polk's gleeful jabs are any indication, San Francisco's built environment was as hotly debated then as now. By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

Plan for 30 more parks will sow the seeds of a greener Dubai: ...part of the civic body's efforts to increase the current 1.4 per cent greenery to eight per cent in the urban areas...Dubai Municipality has joined hands with International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)...- Gulf News (UAE)

Sustainability Awards 2007: winners showed the strides many in the industry are taking to lessen the industry's environment impact. -- Feilden Clegg Bradley; Scott Wilson/Cameron Taylor/Helionix Designs; David Strong; Architype; Trevor Butler/Building Design Partnership (BDP); etc. [links]- Building (UK)

Hospital design lauded at Building Better Healthcare Awards -- Penoyre and Prasad; Ray Moss; Murphy Phillips Architects; Pollard Thomas Edwards/HLM architects; Farrow Architects; Heatherwick Studio; Sonnemann Toon Architects; Roger Simpson; McAdam Design/Gilling Dod Architects; MAAP Architects; etc.- HD/Journal for Healthcare Design and Development (UK)

-- Richard Meier & Partners: Arp Museum, Remagen-Rolandseck, Germany
-- Exhibition: MAD in China, Danish Architecture Centre, Copenhagen
-- Latest News: arcspace Second Life Virtual Community

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